

TOP SECRET CHESS

ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 1 of 11 COPY NO. 1

- 1. ODE 4059 arrived at HTA on 16 September 1957 at 1605.
- 2. Photography is of excellent quality except for a few small areas of limited cloud cover. No malfunction.

ODE - 4059, 10 September 1957, Volga, Kazakhstan and Central Asia.

SUMMARY:

This preliminary study confirms the existence of a major guided missile test facility which contains at least fourteen separate launching areas. It reports a large communication center and several major industrial complexes, one of which reportedly is engaged in uranium ore mining and processing, and another in the production of heavy water. Ten major airfields are reported, two of which are new and still under construction, with a total aircraft count of 270 fighters, 68 bombers, 17 transports, and 17 helicopters. Thirteen airfields of secondary importance are also reported and several smaller sod fields were noted.

TOP SECRET CHESS

Approved For Release 2009/06/05 : CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4 TOP SECRET CHESS

ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 2 of 11

1. KAPUSTIN YAR MISSILE RANGE HEAD



The range head for the Kapustin Yar Missile Test Range covers approximately 1600 square miles beginning roughly at a N-S line through Kapustin Yar (48°34'N - 45°45'E) and extending eastward some forty-five miles. The area is well served by air facilities, roads, rail spurs, and power transmission lines. A maze of separate launching installations, static and component test facilities, distinctive storage areas, and support activities were observed throughout the area. At least fourteen separate and distinctive launch areas, each of which possibly serve a separate missile system, were visible. Included among these was a typical MOSCOW SAM Site, (herringbone configuration) complete with YO-YO and several unusual storage areas.

The entire area is marked by a complex network of buried cable lines, ground scars, communication and instrumentation units, distinctive storage facilities, and housing and administration areas.

None of the launch areas resembled those seen at Tyura Talm and no installation resembling Mozhaysk was observed.

It should be noted that the range head area extends North and South beyond the limits of large scale photo coverage. The small scale of tracker coverage precluded interpretation of installations visible on the far oblique.

TOP SECRET CHESS

Approved For Release 2009/06/05 : CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4

Approved For Release 2009/06/05 : CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4 TOP SECRET CHESS

ODE -4059 DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 3 of 11

2. KIROVAKAN COMPLEX

40°49'N - 44°30'E

This complex which contains the "MYASNIKAN" Chemical Plant, reportedly containing a heavy water plant, is covered by excellent photography.

3. MINERAL'NYYE VODY (44° 12'N - 43°08'E) to PYATIGORSK (44°02'N - 43°04'E)

This complex is covered by excellent photography and contains a large uranium mining area. A new industry, possibly a uranium ore processing plant, is also in this area.

a. MINERAL'NYYE VODY AIRFIELD

44°14'N - 43°06'E

One sod runway, NW/SE, 5800 by 150 feet. Aircraft observed: 10 CAB, 8 COACH/CRATE.

4. VLADIMIROVKA AIRFIELD

48⁰18'N - 46⁰09'E

One concrete runway, NW/SE, approximately 7000 by 200 feet. A large fenced area, probably for weapons loading, is entered by taxiways. Large shop buildings, of a type not normally associated with USSR airfields, are also located at the airfield. Aircraft observed: 7 BULL, 6 BADGER, 42 probable BEAGLE, 12 unidentified fighters, 2 CAB, and 6 unidentified aircraft.

TOP SECRET CHESS

Approved For Release 2009/06/05 : CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4

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Approved For Release 2009/06/05 : CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4 TOP SECRET CHESS

ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 4 of 11

5. RUSTAVI COMPLEX

This area includes the RUSTAVI METALLURGICAL WORKS, the RUSTAVI NITROGEN PLANT, and the RUSTAVI THERMAL POWER PLANT and is covered by excellent photography.

a. RUSTAVI COMMUNICATION CENTER

11°28'N - 45°06'E	
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This communication center is located just southeast of RUSTAVI and contains extensive antenna arrays and a secure building area. The entire area is covered by excellent photography.

6. KRASNOVODSK COMPLEX

KRASNOVODSK is covered by excellent photography and includes a large petroleum refinery, oil storage facilities, a rail terminus, and port facilities. Extensive anti-aircraft defenses and one large electronics site are located in the area.

a. KRASNOVODSK AIRFIELD

One concrete runway, N/S, 8400 by 270 feet, and one concrete runway, N/S, 3300 by 270 feet. Aircraft observed: 2 BULL, 2 BEAGLE,

TOP SECRET CHESS

Approved For Release 2009/06/05: CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4

25X1

TOP SECRET CHESS

ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957

Page 5 of 11

18 FLASHLIGHT, 39 FARMER, 7 CREEK, 1 COLT, 2 CAB, 1 HOUND, and 12 HORSE.

7. YANGADZHA AIRFIELD

One concrete runway, NW/SE, approximately 5600 feet long (on far oblique). Airfield has double chevron scramble strips at each end and a parallel taxiway. Aircraft observed: 28 unidentified fighters.

8. BEK-DASH AIRFIELD

One blacktop runway, N/S, approximately 7000 feet long (on oblique).

The airfield is located 1.5 NM east of BEK-DASH and has only the runway completed. No facilities or aircraft were visible.

9. AKHTYUBA AIRFIELD

One concrete runway, E/W, 7000 by 200 feet. Only limited ground facilities are evident. Airfield is adjacent to VLADIMIROVKA Airfield.

Aircraft observed: 9 probable BEAGLE.

TOP SECRET CHESS

25X1

TOP SECRET CHESS

ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 6 of 11

10. GUR'YEV

Scattered to heavy cloud cover obscures portions of city and surrounding areas.

11. STAVROPOL COMPLEX

The city of STAVROPOL and the surrounding area is covered by excellent photography. Complex contains various industries (some under construction) and a small rail repair shop and yards.

. a. STAVROPOL AIRFIELD

Sod landing area, E/W 4200 by 2200 feet. Aircraft observed: 7 COLT, 10 probable CREEK.

b. STAVROPOL AIRFIELD, WEST

Sod landing area, ENE/WSW, approximately 6700 by 1000 feet.

Aircraft observed: 5 CREEK, 4 COLT.

TOP SECRET CHESS

Approved For Release 2009/06/05 : CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4

25X

25X1

ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 7 of 11

c.	NEW AIRFIELD UNDE	R CONSTRUC	TION	NEAR	STAVE	ROPOL
	45°06'N - 42°06''E					

This airfield is located approximately five nautical miles northeast of STAVROPOL. The runway is oriented NE/SW and is approximately 8200 feet long. POL facilities are also under construction. A fenced barracks area is located adjacent to the field.

12. ARMAVIR AIRFIELD

Concrete runway, approximately 6000 feet long (on far oblique).

Runway has parallel taxiways and hardstands. There are two POL storage areas and one possible ammunition storage area adjacent to the field.

13. NEVINNOMYSSK COMPLEX

This city and the surrounding area is covered by excellent photography.

a. NEVINNOMYSSK AIRFIELD

Construction activity is taking place on runway and adjacent areas.

Airfield is not usable and construction activity is probably not associated with airfield repair.

TOP SECRET CHESS

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Approved For Release 2009/06/05 : CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4 TOP SECRET CHESS

ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 8 of 11

14. PYATIGORSK AIRFIELD

Sod landing area, WNW/ESE, 2800 by 1600 feet. Aircraft observed: 1 COLT, 7 CREEK.

15. MOZDOK AIRFIELD

One concrete runway, E/W, 7800 by 230 feet with concrete taxiways, a parallel parking ramp, and POL storage facilities. Aircraft observed: 50 BULL.

16. GUDERMES AIRFIELD

One blacktop runway, NE/SW, length over 5000 feet (on far oblique).

Airfield is located two nautical miles north of GUDERMES. Aircraft observed:

7 unidentified fighters, and 15 other unidentified aircraft.

17. GROZNYY COMPLEX

GROZNYY, which is covered by excellent photography, contains railroad classification yards, heavy industry, and an extensive petroleum industry.

TOP SECRET CHESS

Approved For Release 2009/06/05 : CIA-RDP78T05693A00030030030-4

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ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 9 of 11

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a. GROZNYY AIRFIELD

Sod landing area, NW/SE, 9400 by 4000 feet. Aircraft observed: 61 liaison aircraft.

b. GROZNYY NORTH AIRFIELD

Sod landing area, WNW/ESE, 5000 by 3300 feet. Ten possible aircraft were observed.

c. GROZNYY EAST AIRFIELD

One concrete runway, E/W, 6400 by 200 feet, and one concrete runway, E/W, 3200 by 200 feet, with a 3200 foot packed earth extension.

Airfield has small servicing and repair facilities and ammunition storage.

Aircraft observed: 1 BEAGLE, 25 FRESCO, 1 CREEK, 1 COLT.

d. GROZNYY/GOYTY AIRFIELD

Sod landing area, E/W, 8000 by 4000 feet. Airfield is located 8.5 nautical miles south of GROZNYY. Aircraft observed: 54 possible CREEK.

TOP SECRET CHESS

Approved For Release 2009/06/05: CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4 TOP SECRET CHESS

ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 10 of 11

18. TBILISI COMPLEX

This city and surrounding area is covered by excellent photography.

a. TBILISI/ORKHEVI AIRFIELD

One concrete runway, NW/SE, 8000 by 200 feet. There is a new administration building under construction. Aircraft observed: 9 COACH/ CRATE, 12 CAB, 6 CREEK, 1 COLT, 3 HOUND.

b. TBILISI/VAZIANI Airfield

One concrete runway, WNW/ESE, 7100 by 200 feet. Aircraft observed: 13 BEAGLE, 74 FRESCO, 1 CREEK, 4 HARE.

c. TBILISI/SOGANLUG AIRFIELD

One concrete runway, NW/SE, 5600 by 230 feet. Aircraft observed: 2 CAB.

d. TBILISI/SANDAR AIRFIELD

One concrete runway, ENE/WSW, 6400 by 165 feet, and one concrete runway, NNW/SSE, 3100 by 250 feet. Aircraft observed: 59 FRESCO and 3 CREEK.

TOP SECRET CHESS

Approved For Release 2009/06/05: CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4

25X1

TOP SECRET CHESS

ODE - 4059

DATE OF INFO: 10 September 1957

PAR-189-57 17 September 1957 Page 11 of 11

19. GYUMUSH

The GYUMUSH area and the GYUMUSH Hydroelectric Power Plant are covered by excellent photography.

20. YEREVAN COMPLEX

This city and surrounding area is covered by excellent photography.

a. YEREVAN/YEGVARD AIRFIELD

Two packed earth runways, one N/S and NE/SW, each 3400 by 270 feet. One balloon was observed.

b. YEREVAN AIRFIELD

One concrete runway, NNE/SSW, 7200 by 220 feet. Aircraft observed: 27 FRESCO, 3 COACH/CRATE, 3 CAB, 2 COLT, 1 CREEK, and 1 unidentified aircraft.

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Approved For Release 2009/06/05 : CIA-RDP78T05693A000300030030-4

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